GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1880
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government use electronic voting machines in the Lok Sabha and assembly elections including bye-elections;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has been used till date;

(c) the years by which the said procedures would be completed; and

(d) the details of the programme of the Government in the next Lok Sabha elections?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) and (b) The Election Commission has informed that the electronic voting machines were used in 4,03,508 polling stations spread over different States/Union territories in various elections conducted from November, 1998 onwards. A Statement showing the States and elections where electronic voting machines were used is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) According to the Election Commission of India, a million (10 lakhs) electronic voting machines are required for conducting the Parliamentary elections. The Commission, at present, has a stock of 2,83,800 electronic voting machines and it has placed order for procurement of additional electronic voting machines in the current financial year within the allocated budget of Rs.142.29 crores. It will be endeavour of the Government to make provision for procurement of more electronic voting machines so that the next general elections to the Lok Sabha are held with the electronic voting machines.